

U.S. Embassy Bahrain
Demonstration Notice 08 – February 11, 2014

Spontaneous protests continue to take place in Bahrain from time to time in response to world events or regional and local developments.

February 13, 2014 to February 16, 2014 expect violent acts to take place along the length of the Budaiya Highway corridor, near the Al Farooq junction and Manama area. All restricted areas will experience increased violent acts during this time period. Please increase your situational awareness in Juffair, Gharifa, Adliya, and Gudaibiya areas. Plan accordingly by stocking up on adequate levels of medicines, water, and food to avoid driving this weekend. Restrict your travel plans to the maximum extent possible by carefully planning necessary travel to minimize the risk of being caught in protest activity.

Certain groups in Bahrain plan to disrupt traffic during the above mentioned time frame. These disruptions may appear around the country and at all times of the day. These disruptions may have an impact on the morning, afternoon, and evening commute. Anticipate that alternate routes established by the Police may be used to protect all citizens. Develop your own alternate routes given your daily schedule. Utilize GPS devices to their maximum extent and maintain situational awareness.

United States citizens should remain aware of their surroundings, particularly in these areas, and keep current with media coverage of local events. If you encounter a large public gathering or demonstration, depart the vicinity immediately.

It is important to note that there have been no direct attacks on U.S. citizens in Bahrain to date. Spontaneous and, at times, violent anti-government of Bahrain protests continue to occur, particularly at night and on weekends. These protests have included blockades of major highways with burning debris and the establishment of unofficial checkpoints. Protestors have thrown rocks and Molotov cocktails and used homemade weapons to include improvised explosive devices and shotgun like projectile launchers. To counter these violent acts and restore order, the Ministry of Interior will utilize crowd control measures, such as tear gas, stun grenades, and if necessary, birdshot. Violent clashes between security forces and protestors can make travel in and around Bahrain dangerous without advance warning. The Ministry of Interior maintains official checkpoints in certain areas.

Please see below for a map. Areas shaded in red are off-limits to U.S. Citizen Embassy employees and their family members at all times. U.S. Citizen Embassy employees and their family members are permitted to travel in the areas shaded in yellow during daylight hours only. The Embassy advises all Americans to avoid travel within red zones as a general rule whenever possible.

We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website at travel.state.gov where the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Country Specific Information](#), [Travel Warnings](#), and [Travel Alerts](#) can be found. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well. Download our free Smart Traveler app, available through [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#), to have travel information at your fingertips.

In addition to information on the internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, from other countries, on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday, Eastern Time (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy in Manama can be reached at (973) 1724-2700; the afterhours emergency number is (973) 1724-2957; the fax number is (973) 1725-6242. The Embassy's [website](http://bahrain.usembassy.gov), <http://bahrain.usembassy.gov>, includes travel information and the Worldwide Caution and Demonstration Notices. All U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#). The Consular Section can be reached at ManamaConsular@state.gov.

The U.S. Embassy is located at:

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Kingdom of Bahrain

RESTRICTED AREAS
BAHRAIN: OFF-LIMITS AREAS

